

Remarks

The claims are being amended to place them in better condition for appeal. It is respectfully submitted the claims are patentable for the reasons set forth in applicant's last reply. For instance, Oberg does not disclose or suggest among other things a flexible fabric support material and much less a flexible fabric support material having on an internal surface thereof a number of mutually circumferentially spaced apart, axially elongated, stiffening strips. At column 3, lines 54-57 there is no mention of a fabric material, and the flexible wires 58 in Figs. 13 and 14 are not a fabric material.

The Examiner is requested to reconsider his position in view of the above and previously submitted comments on the rejections. If the rejections are maintained, an appeal will be filed.

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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